

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 remain pending in the application.

ALLOWABLE Claims 2, 7-9, 11, 16-19, 24, 26-31 and 34

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 2, 7-9, 11, 16-19, 24, 26-31 and 34 are allowable. The subject matter of dependent claims 2, 11 and 24 are amended into independent claims 1, 10 20 and 32, rendering them now allowable. Moreover, claims 26 and 30 are amended to be in independent form.

Claims 1, 3-6, 10, 12-15, 20-23, 25, 32 and 33 over Freeman and Myers

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-6, 10, 12-15, 20-23, 25, 32 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,930,310 to Freeman ("Freeman") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,570,395 to Myers ("Myers").

It is respectfully pointed out that claim 25 depends from claim 24, which the Examiner indicated recites ALLOWABLE subject matter. Thus, it is believed that the Examiner would agree that claim 25 is allowable over the prior art of record. Otherwise, the Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Independent claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of **ALLOWABLE** claim 2, with claim 2 being subsequently canceled. Similarly, independent claim 10 is amended to include the subject matter of **ALLOWABLE** claim 11. Also, independent claims 20 and 32 are amended to include the subject matter of **ALLOWABLE** claim 24.

It is believed that the Examiner would agree that ALL claims recite **allowable** subject matter.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1, 3-6, 10, 12-15, 20-23, 25, 32 and 33 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William H. Bollman", written over a horizontal line.

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